



# Spanish National Citizen Science Foundation

◦ Let's work together!

# Who we are?

IBERCIVIS is the national private non-profit foundation devoted to citizen science in Spain.

Legally established in 2012, we deploy, support and promote general public engagement in science with research and educational purposes.

We play a central role in the citizen science community at local, national and international level.

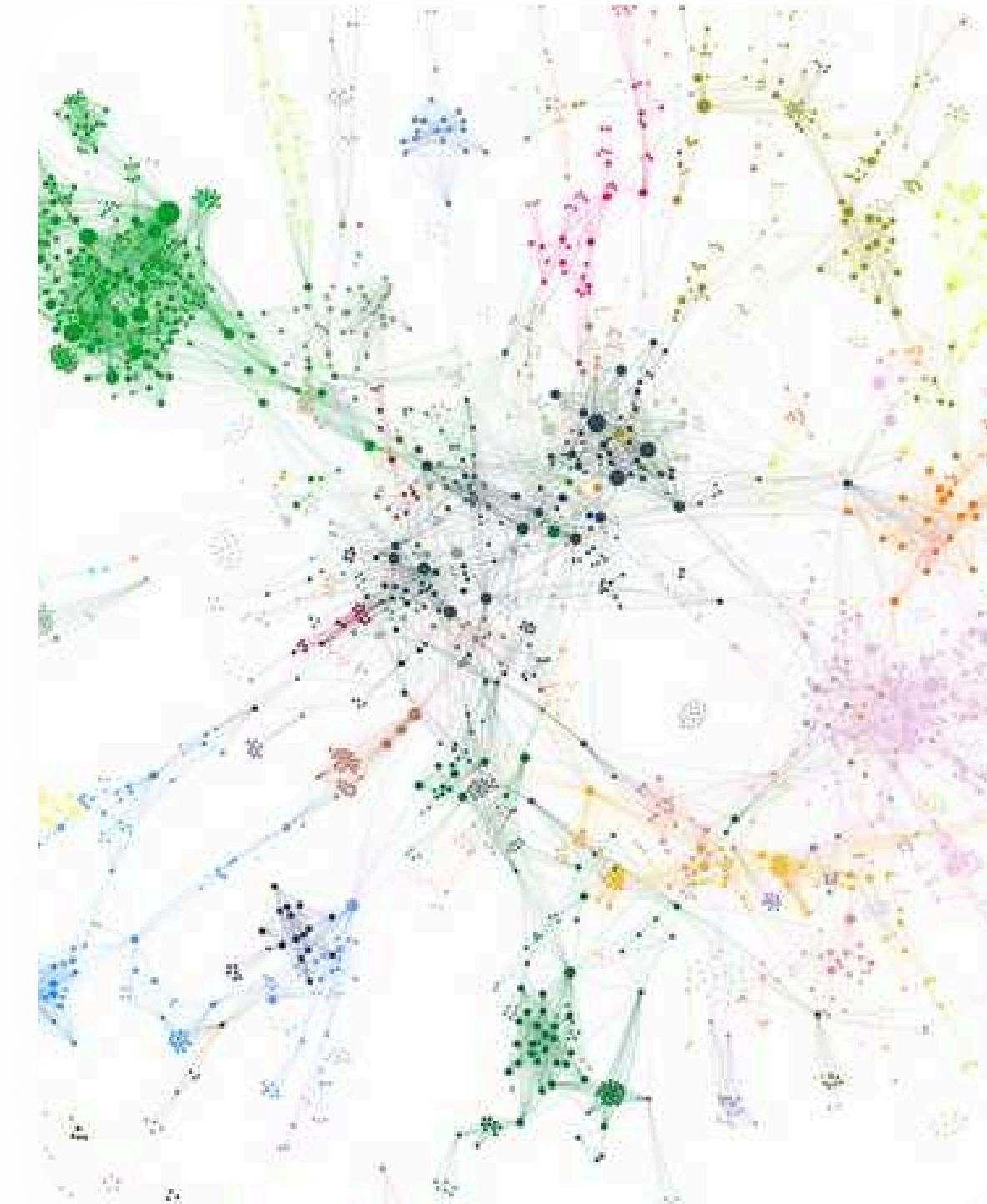
## Board



# What we do?



**Research through citizen science methodologies.**



**Analysis of citizen science.**



**Promotion and Support of citizen science in Spain and beyond.**

# The team: 19 people committed to citizen science.

## Multidisciplinary:

physics   philosophy   engineering  
journalism   geology   politics  
graphic design   ...

## Multi-profile:

research   management   consulting  
administration   ICT development  
communication   ...

~25% of the team have a PhD

**Research team:** 67% are senior  
researchers.



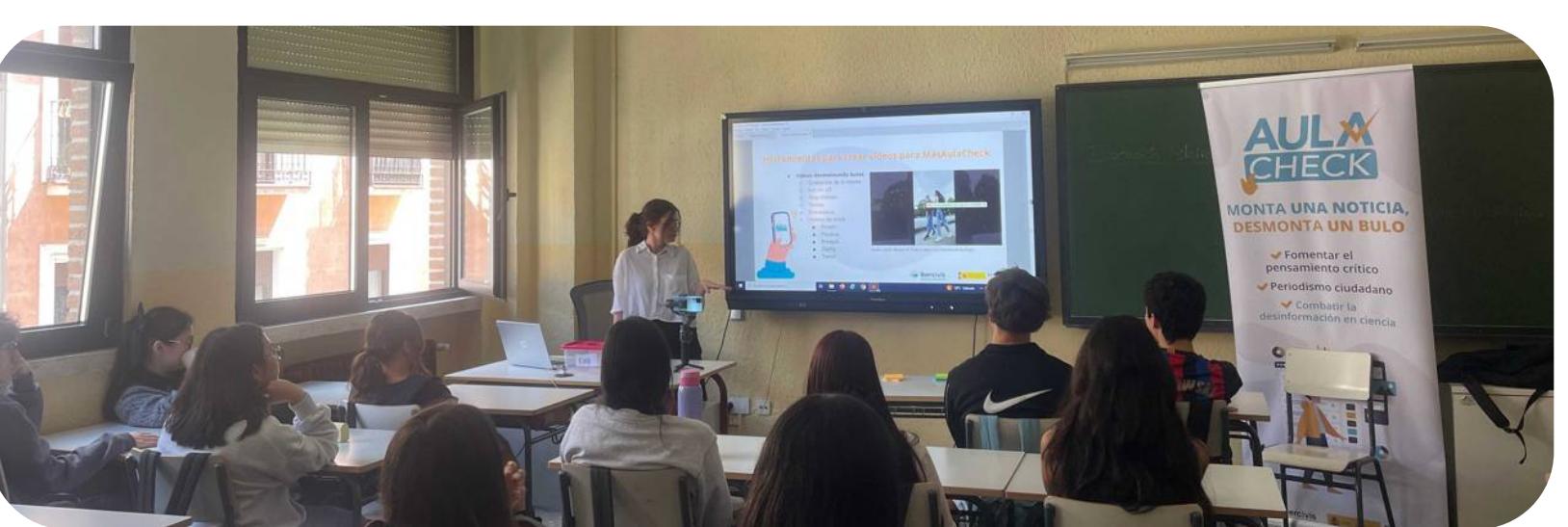
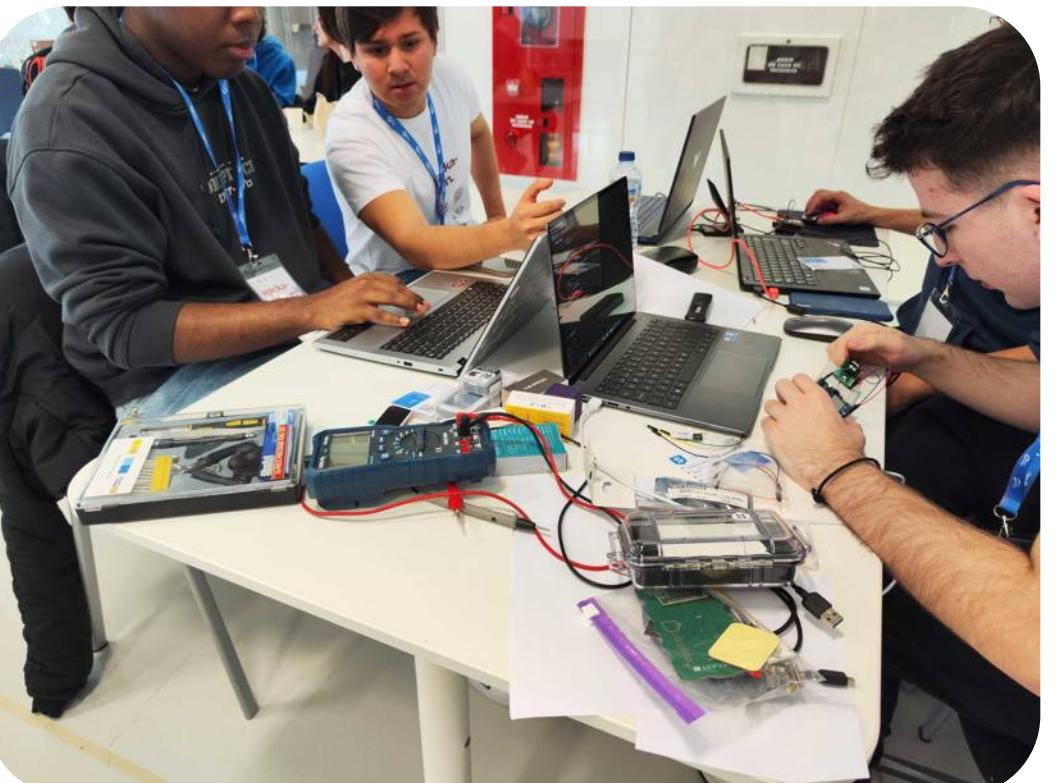
## Projects:

Participation in over **80** different types of citizen science initiatives:

**19** European projects  
↪ **11** ongoing

**>50** National projects  
↪ **4** ongoing

**3** Collaboration agreements with national public authorities.



# Our core values

# 1

## OPEN SCIENCE

- Ensuring openness of research outputs: methods, tools, data, results...
- Enabling access not just to knowledge, but also to knowledge generation.

# 2

## ETHICS

- Transparency in research and data management.
- Respect for privacy
- Recognition of contributions to build trust.
- Promotion of inclusiveness.
- Safeguarding of the well-being of participants and of the entire community.

# 3

## RESEARCH INTEGRITY

- Honesty
- Rigor and accuracy
- Accountability
- Respect for others
- Good stewardship of resources
- Open communication

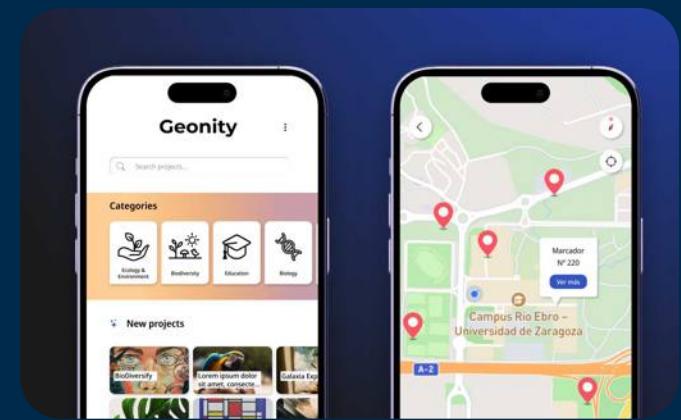
# Ways we can work together

## Deployment of citizen science initiatives



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## Digital development



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## Citizen and multi-actor engagement



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## Training and capacity building



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## Communication and graphic design



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## Science-to-policy



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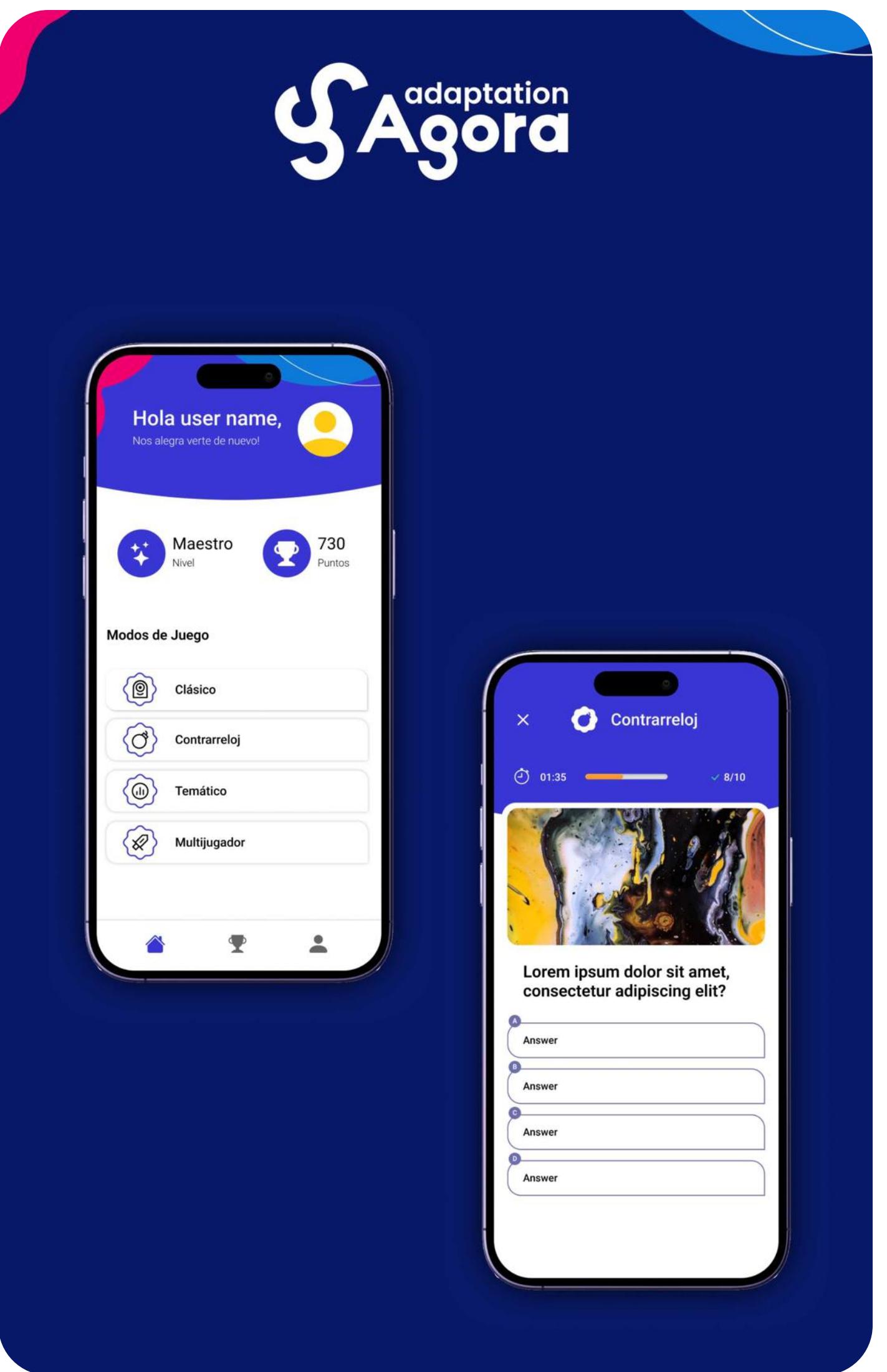
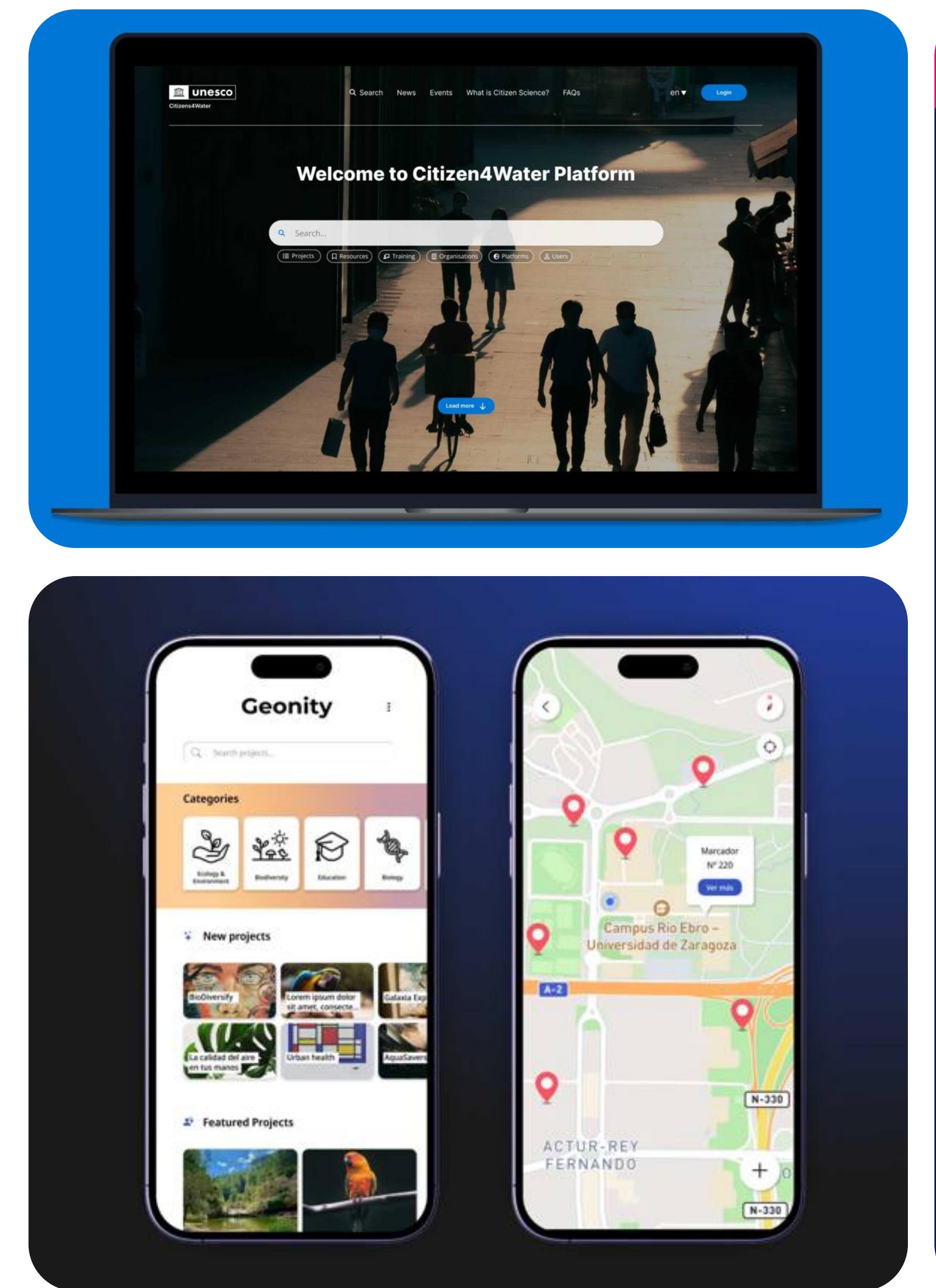
# Deployment of citizen science initiatives

- Multidisciplinary team allows us to address research questions in multiple scientific fields.
- Participation in >80 citizen science initiatives of which 19 are EU-funded projects.
- Experience in the development of different types of resources (kits, apps, sensors...) to support citizen participation.
- Development of evaluation frameworks at participant, methodology and project level.
- Experts in data quality and FAIRness.
- Leading actor in the structuring and consolidation of citizen science in the European Research Area (ERA): [RIECS-concept](#), [EU-citizen.science](#), [White Paper of Citizen Science](#).



# Digital development

- Development and adaptation of **open-source technologies** to enable participatory research.
- Strong focus on **intuitiveness, user friendliness** and **usability**: UI/UX-based design.
- **Designed for non-researchers**; adapted to the needs and capabilities of end-users.
- **Webs, apps & Portals**: for data gathering, processing & visualisation; repositories; engagement.
- **Mobile apps**: geolocalisation of citizen-generated data, capacity building, communication, engagement.
- **Hardware**: sensors for crowdsourcing data, DIY-based hardware, IoT.



# Citizen and multi-actor engagement

- >80k citizens engaged from very diverse backgrounds (different age groups; socioeconomic and educational levels...)
- Engagement strategies and multi-actor participatory activities: hackathons, co-creation techniques, BioBlitzs, communities of practice, citizen observatories...
- Strategies to sustain participation and motivation: gamification, rewards, acknowledgment, tokenization.
- National node for citizen science: vast network of communities and collaborators.
- Involvement of citizens in all stages of the research process.



# Training, acknowledgment and capacity building

- Fundamental aspect in citizen science projects for the **involvement of people in research activities** and for “giving back”.
- Wide experience **collaborating with educational entities**: schools, high-schools, universities...
- **Development of training and capacity building materials** in diverse formats (videos, gamified, interactive...) along with capacity acknowledgment.
- **Organization of events** (workshops, walks, schools...) for different types of stakeholders in participatory research projects.
- Formal and non-formal **training of researchers and non-professionals** on citizen science.



# Science-to-policy

- **Development/adaptation of tools** to facilitate the adoption of evidence in policy-making.
- **Direct link** with Spanish and Aragon Governments.
- **Science policy advocacy** with concrete effects on open science and citizen engagement.
- **Unique institutional expertise** facilitating dialogue and influence at different levels of government.
- Translation of research results to support **evidence-based policies**.
- **Tools and policy briefs** to support decision making.
- Ibercivis co-authored the [\*\*White Paper on Citizen Science\*\*](#) which reviews and provides guidelines for science-to-policy in citizen science.



# Science-to-policy: Spain and beyond

Close interaction with public authorities from the Spanish government through the **Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT)** with the collaboration of ~250 citizen science agents:

- Creation of the Action Plan for the Development and Consolidation of Citizen Science in Spain with the **Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness** (2017-2018)
- Collaboration Agreement between the Ibercivis Foundation and FECYT with the **Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities** (2018-2019)
- Establishment of the Citizen Science Steering Group together and the **Ministry of Universities** (2022)

Leaders of 3 current Working Groups of the **European Citizen Science Association (ECSA)**: ECS platform, Agrifood and Policy, strategy, governance and partnerships



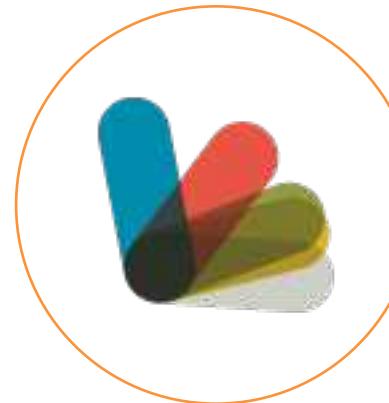
# Communication and graphic design

- Creation of **communication plans**.
- Identification of **key messages, audiences and channels**.
- Design of **visual identities** for projects.
- Creation of **visual content and materials to support communication**: logos, brochures, reports, infographics, roll ups, banners, online presentations, etc.
- **Editorial design**: layout of text books, didactic units or other educational materials.



# Project portfolio

**SOCIENTIZE**  
(2012 - 2014)



Society as Infrastructure for e-science via Technolog, Innovation and Creativity

[View more](#) 

**DNOSES**  
(2018 - 2021)



Distributed Network for Odour Sensing, Empowerment and Sustainability

[View more](#) 

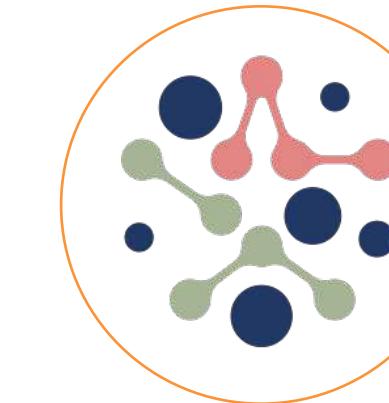
**BRITEC**  
(2019 - 2021)



Bringing Research into the Classroom

[View more](#) 

**EUCITSCI**  
(2019 - 2021)



The European Platform for citizen science, projects and initiatives

[View more](#) 

**NEWSERA**  
(2020 - 2022)



Citizen Science as the New Paradigm for Science Communication

[View more](#) 

**COESO**  
(2021 - 2023)



Collaborative Engagement on Societal Issues

[View more](#) 

**DECIDO**  
(2021 - 2023)



eviDENCE and Cloud for more InformeD and effective pOlicies

[View more](#) 

**SOCIO-BEE**  
(2022 - 2024)



Wearables and droneS fOr City Socio-Environmental Observations and BEhavioural ChangE

[View more](#) 

**ECS**  
(2022 - 2026)



European Citizen Science

[View more](#) 

**GREENGAGE**  
(2023 - 2025)



Engaging Citizens - Mobilizing Technology - Delivering the Green Deal

[View more](#) 

# Project portfolio

AGORA  
(2023 - 2025)



A Gathering place to cO-  
design and co-cReate  
Adaptation

[View more](#) 

PROCOAST  
(2023 - 2026)



A PROactive approach for  
Communities to enAbLe  
Societal Transformation

[View more](#) 

DILAN  
(2023 - 2025)



Digital Language and  
Communication Training for  
EU Scientists

[View more](#) 

ECHO  
(2023 - 2027)



Engaging Citizens in soil  
science: the road to  
Healthier sOils

[View more](#) 

ATRIUM  
(2024 - 2027)



Alternatives for an effective  
Transition to sustainable,  
Reusable and recyclable  
construction products by  
the Innovative production  
of User and eco-friendly  
bio-based Materials

[View more](#) 

PLANB  
(2024 - 2027)



The Path Towards Addressing  
Adverse Impacts of Light and  
Noise Pollution on Terrestrial  
Biodiversity and Ecosystems

[View more](#) 

RIECS-Concept  
(2025 - 2027)



Towards a pan-European  
Research Infrastructure for  
Excellent Citizen Science

JUSTSAFE  
(2025 - 2029)



Justice-Oriented Strategies  
for Social Adaptive Risk  
Management

NITRAZENS  
(2025 - 2028)



Supporting Nitrate  
Governance through  
Citizen-Engaging Tools



# RIECS-Concept

HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01-01  
2025-2027  
3.6M€

TOWARDS A PAN-EUROPEAN  
RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE  
FOR EXCELLENT CITIZEN  
SCIENCE

## Concept:

To conceptualise a pan-European research infrastructure (RI) for citizen science.

RIECS-concept **main activities** include:

- A technical **viability study**: required hardware, middleware and software; data and metadata standards and management; connection to and interoperability with other RIs....
- A **global strategic plan**: Pathway for implementation considering legal, economic and decision-making aspects, among others.
- **Open governance** from design: Engagement of diverse stakeholders for co-ownership, trust and wider uptake..

## Ibercivis' main role:

- Overall project coordination
- Engagement and involvement of stakeholders across the citizen science environment and beyond
- Preliminary design of services and feasibility study: Elaboration of a report on the general conceptual design of the infrastructure covering the scientific and technical dimensions.
- Alignment of RIECS' data and metadata standards and protocols with EU frameworks and definition of a framework for sustainability, collaboration and policy support.



**ibercivis**  
people doing science

**ecsa** | European  
Citizen Science  
Association

**MALMÖ  
UNIVERSITY**

ЦЕНТАР  
ЗА ПРОМОЦИЈУ  
НАУКЕ

**CITIZEN  
SCIENCE** | GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIP



**CSIC**  
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS

**=dead**  
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und Internationalisierung



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# GREENGAGE

HORIZON-CL6-2022-GOVERNANCE-01-08  
2023-2025  
3.8M€

ENGAGING CITIZENS  
MOBILIZING TECHNOLOGY  
DELIVERING GREEN DEAL

## Concept:

Promote EU's **twin transition** towards **carbon neutral cities** through **citizen science**.

This is achieved, among others, by:

- **Improving decision-making intelligence through the integration of citizen observations** within existing technologies such as Copernicus, GEOSS...
- Promoting active citizen participation in **data gathering** and use **through Citizen Observatories**.
- **Demonstration** of project concepts and generation of **real-life** results in **5 pilots** in different locations across Europe: Bristol, Turano, Nord-Barabant, Copenhagen and Gerace.

## Ibercivis' role:

- Provide know-how to ensure citizen engagement and participation.
- Methods for establishing citizen observatories combining top-down & bottom-up approaches.
- Establish an international community of citizen observatories.
- Communication and dissemination to maximize project's impact.





# ECHO

HORIZON-MISS-2022-SOIL-01-09

2025-2027

5.3M€

ENGAGING CITIZENS IN SOIL  
SCIENCE: THE ROAD TO  
HEALTHIER SOILS

## Concept:

Development of **citizen science initiatives for monitoring and improving soil health** across all EU Member States.

The two main actions of the project include:

- **Engaging citizens in soil monitoring** and fostering soil literacy.
- **Creation of a soil data repository** accessible to both scientists and communities.

## Ibercivis' role:

- Developing and providing citizen science strategies, methodologies, and tools.
- Contributing to all citizen science initiatives and supporting the project's tools, materials, and activities (soil health analysis toolkit and protocols, data gathering app, events, ambassador and citizen recruitment...).
- Ensuring the quality of data and its interoperability with existing soil databases.
- Promoting the international replication of the project's citizen science initiatives.





# ECS

HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ERA-01-60  
2022-2026  
4M€

EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE

## Concept:

Consolidation of a strong and open **citizen science network** in Europe.

Main project activities include:

- **Establishment of a network of 28** ambassadors (one per Member State) to foster the creation and support of communities of citizen scientists.
- **Upgrade of EU-citizen.science platform** and creation of an European Academy of Citizen Science.

## Ibercivis' role:

- Leader of the development of the online platforms.
- Co-creation workshops for service conceptualization and selection.
- Design and implementation of new services.
- Promotion of the platform.



# ciencia- ciudadana.es

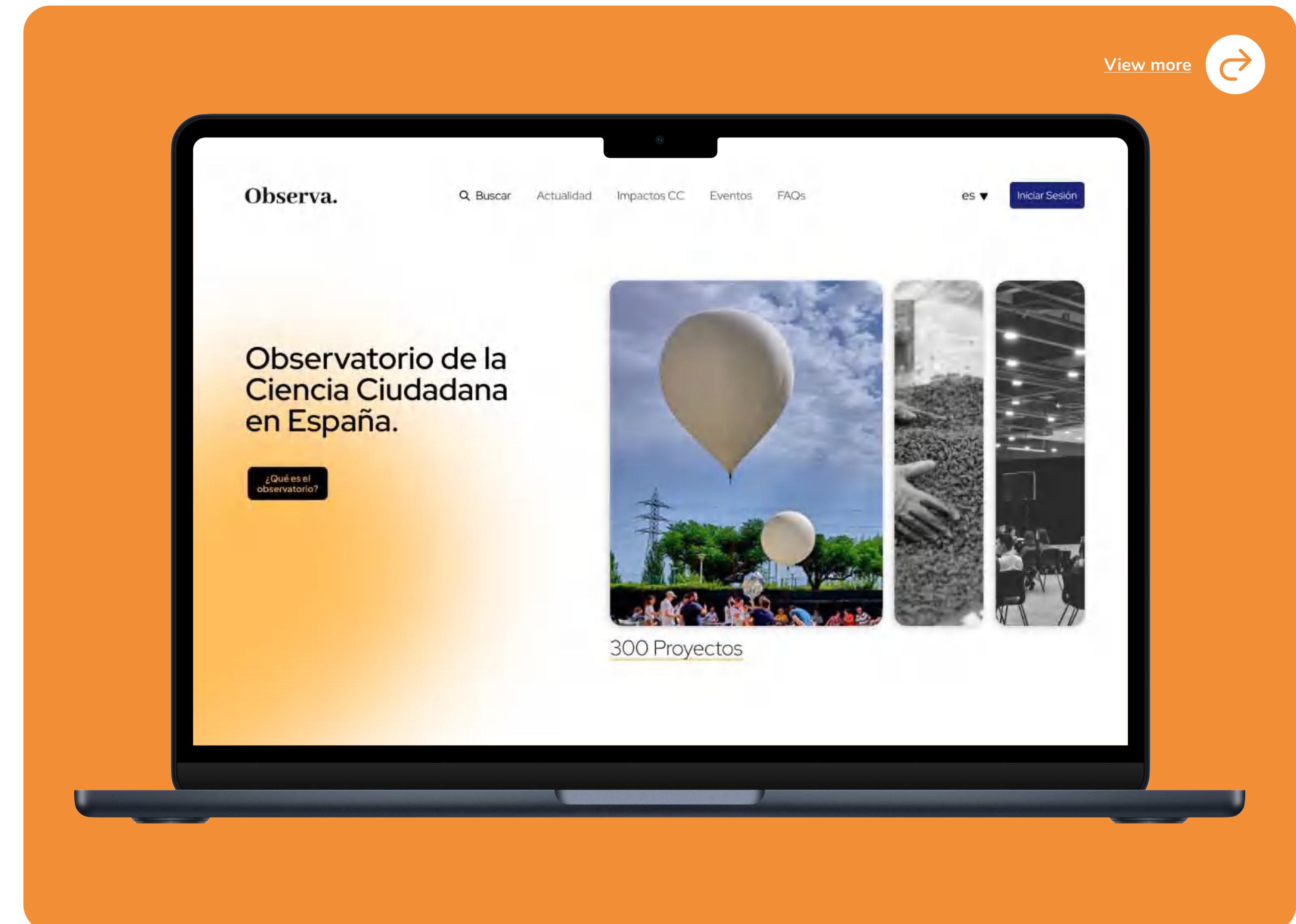
# Ibercivis coordinates the Spanish Citizen Science Observatory

**It promotes, analyses and visibilise initiatives, results, events, impacts.**

**>300 initiatives, resources, events  
interviews, podcasts, etc.**

# Elaboration of the annual report on the state of citizen science in Spain

# New Observatories in Europe built on Ibercivis experience from the Spanish Observatory

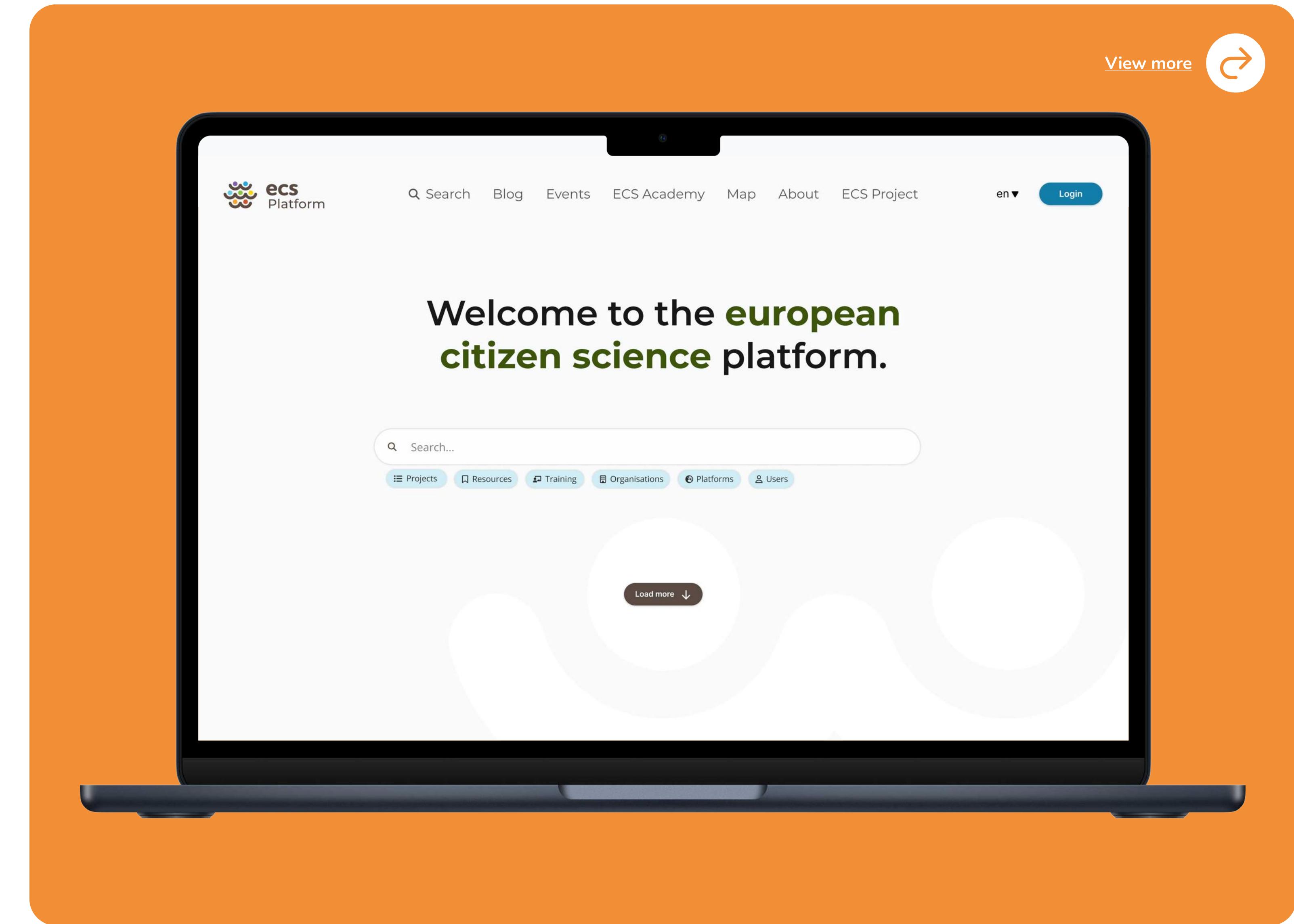


# EU- citizen.science

>300 initiatives  
>300 institutions  
29 platforms  
5.000 individuals, etc.

Ibercivis led the technical development of the platform and currently leads its improvement and extension (e.g., ECS Academy)

Its open code has been replicated in Portugal, Brazil and the Netherlands



# Scientific Publications on Citizen Science

Some recent publications

*I*

- Pelacho, M., Orejudo, S., Clemente-Gallardo, J. (2025). **Science as a commons: motivations for continued participation in citizen science projects.** *PLOS One*, 20(6), e0325593. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0325593>

*II*

- Soacha-Godoy, K., López-Borrull, A., Serrano, F., & Piera, J. (2025). **The Backbone of Participatory Science: Reframing Citizen Observatories as Research Infrastructures.** *Sustainability*, 17(10), 4608. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su17104608>

*III*

- Gonzalo, A., Sanz-García, F., Pelacho, M., Tarancón, A., Rivero, A., Varela, O. and Moreno, A. (2023). **Collective Intelligence to Find Solutions to the Challenges Posed by the Sustainable Development Goals.** *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*, 8(1), p. 47. doi: [10.5334/cstp.587](https://doi.org/10.5334/cstp.587)

*IV*

- Pelacho, M., Ruiz, G., Sanz, F., Tarancón, A. and Clemente-Gallardo, J. (2021). **Analysis of the evolution and collaboration networks of citizen science scientific publications.** *Scientometrics*, 126, pp.225-257. doi: [10.1007/s11192-020-03724-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-020-03724-x)

# Scientific Publications on Citizen Science

Some recent publications

V

- Wagenknecht, K., Woods, T., Sanz, F. G., Gold, M., Bowser, A., Rüfenacht, S., Ceccaroni, L. and Piera, J. (2021). **EU-Citizen. Science: A platform for mainstreaming citizen science and open science in Europe.** *Data Intelligence*, 3(1), 136-149. doi: [10.1162/dint\\_a\\_00085](https://doi.org/10.1162/dint_a_00085)

VI

- Sanz, F., Pelacho, M., Woods, T., Fraisl, D., See, L., Haklay, M. and Arias, R. (2021). **Finding what you need: a guide to Citizen Science guidelines.** In: Vohland, K., Land-Zandstra, A., Ceccaroni, L., Lemmens, R., Perelló, J., Ponti, M., Samson, R., Wagenknecht, K. (Editors). *The Science of Citizen Science*. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 419-438. doi: [10.1007/978-3-030-58278-4\\_21](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58278-4_21)

VII

- Schade, S., Pelacho, M., van Noordwijk, T., Vohland, K., Hecker, S., Manzoni, M. (2021). **Citizen Science and Policy.** In: Vohland, K., Land-Zandstra, A., Ceccaroni, L., Lemmens, R., Perelló, J., Ponti, M., Samson, R., Wagenknecht, K. (Editors). *The Science of Citizen Science*. Springer, Cham. doi: [10.1007/978-3-030-58278-4\\_18](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58278-4_18)

VIII

- Pelacho, M., Rodríguez, H., Broncano, F., Kubus, R., Sanz, F., Gavete, B. and Lafuente, A. (2021). **Science as a commons: improving the governance of knowledge through citizen science.** En: Vohland, K., Land-Zandstra, A., Ceccaroni, L., Lemmens, R., Perelló, J., Ponti, M., Samson, R., Wagenknecht, K. (Editors). *The Science of Citizen Science*. Cham: Springer. doi: [10.1007/978-3-030-58278-4\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58278-4_4)



**ibercivis**  
people doing science



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